

COPIES
APR 26 2004
U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

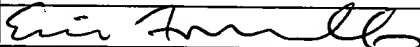
Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/555,801
Filing Date	June 5, 2000
Examiner Name	Hien Thi Tran
First Named Inventor	Walter STOEPLER et al.
Group Art Unit	1764
Attorney Docket Number	37504-167395

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

- Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
 - ☐ Previously submitted
 - ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - ☐ Other _____
 - Enclosed
 - ☒ Amendment/Reply
 - ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - ☒ Other Request for Petition for Extension of Time - 2 Months
- Miscellaneous
 - ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
 - ☐ Other _____
- Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
 - ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 22-0261
 - ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - ☐ Other _____
 - ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 1190.00 enclosed
 - ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	Eric J. Franklin	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,134
Signature		Date	April 26, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print /Type)	
Signature	Date

VENABLE
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

04/27/2004 SDIRETA1 00000057 09555801

01 FC:1801

770.00 OP